

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-069

NECS – John Snow House
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By Email

31 May 2024

Dear Applicant

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 10 May 2024 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

Pre-amble

According to the NHS 2018 Excellence in Continence Care report, it is estimated that more than 50% of care home residents have urinary incontinence. People living in care homes are entitled to the same access and level of NHS services as those living in their own homes. Care homes and commissioners should collaborate with each other to ensure adequate provision and funding of products.

Please, therefore, accept this data request under the Freedom of Information Act as a Freedom of Information Request. This request seeks to collect data regarding your Integrated Care Board's (ICBs) continence provision.

Please note: if the service you offer differs between residential and nursing care homes, please clearly address this in your response to the questions below. If prior to ICB formation, the former CCGs had different processes and, these have not changed and the ICB has multiple processes across the ICB, please make sure this is reflected in your response below.

Questions

www.northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk 

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1. Continence care is free at the point of access. We are aware former CCGs used to offer either a weekly payment to care providers to fund the purchase of continence aids (i.e pads) themselves or in some cases free issued continence aids (i.e. pads) to care home residents via the local continence service. Please outline the current approach across the ICB for continence provision for both residential and nursing care home residents, and when was this last reviewed.
2. If your ICB currently offers a weekly payment, please outline what the current weekly payment paid to care providers by your ICB for continence aids (i.e. pads), and when was this last reviewed. Please link to where this is documented for care providers and provide a link to where care providers can review the application and review process operated by the ICB.
3. If your ICB currently provides free issues products by your local continence service, please confirm how many continence aids (i.e. pads) are issued per resident per day, and what determines the number of continence aids (i.e. pads) each resident will receive, and when this was last reviewed. Please link to where this is documented for care providers and provide a link to where care providers can review the application and review process operated by the ICB.
4. Please provide the appropriate contact details for continence assessments and funding decisions/applications. (Please provide a name, title, email address, phone number and address)
5. Please outline your future proposals and timeline for the review of continence care among your ICB, and when this was last reviewed.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds the information you have requested. However, this is available within the NENC ICB publication scheme which can be accessed on the ICB website: [Publications scheme | North East and North Cumbria NHS \(northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk\)](https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/publications-scheme) or please refer to our previous related request, our ref: FOI ICB339 from the NENC ICB FOI Disclosure Log at: <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/foi-disclosure-log>

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

In accordance with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your review, you do have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.org.uk

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer